

DWR NEWS | *People*

SPRING 2005



DWR's Eureka Flood Center

David Kennard, DWR's North Coast Flood Management Coordinator, checks for obstructions at the mouth of the Klamath River. Impediments factor into his reports on how well the area's rivers can carry rainfall to the ocean.



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DWR has just released a public review draft of *Water Plan Update 2005*. Updating the California Water Plan is a significant part of the DWR mission. The Water Plan was first prepared in 1957, and has been updated seven times prior to the latest edition. Some long-time DWR staffers still have a copy of that first version, Bulletin 3, on their bookshelves.

In some ways, conditions haven't changed much in the ensuing 48 years. The first paragraph of the Foreword from 1957 is still true today:

California is presently faced with problems of a highly critical nature – the need for further control, protection, conservation, and distribution of her most vital resource – water. While these problems are not new, having been existent ever since the advent of the first white settlers, never before have they reached such widespread and serious proportions. Their critical nature stems not only from the unprecedented recent growth of population, industry, and agriculture in a semiarid state, but also from the consequences of a long period during which the construction of water conservation works has not kept pace with the increased need for additional water. Unless corrective action is taken – and taken immediately – the consequences may be disastrous.

While the challenges haven't changed very much, our strategies for meeting the challenges are much different than they were in 1957. The first Water Plan dealt exclusively with water supply for farms and cities. There was virtually no mention of water quality or water for the environment. In contrast, the new plan identifies three foundational actions for sustainability: we must use water efficiently, protect water quality, and support environmental stewardship.

Bulletin 3 presented a grand vision of dams, reservoirs, and aqueducts to solve California's water problems. The State Water Project grew out of that vision and continues to be an essential part of the statewide system that forms the backbone of water management in California. Today we recognize that our statewide infrastructure is only part of the solution. The new Water Plan recognizes that we must continue to improve our statewide systems, but points the way toward a second vital part of reliability: implementing integrated regional water management.

The concept of integrated regional water management may be a new one to some in DWR. As the term implies, IRWM includes consideration of many aspects of water management in an integrated fashion – supply augmentation, protection of water quality, conservation and recycling, conjunctive use of surface and groundwater supplies, protection and restoration of aquatic ecosystems, flood control, watershed management, etc. Successful IRWM usually requires many government entities and others to work together within a region, forming partnerships and cooperating in ways that haven't often occurred in the past.

DWR has a long history of helping local agencies with their water management programs, and the need for our services will increase as regions manage water in new ways. This will require DWR to work in new ways as well. Many of the strategies for IRWM are activities that are scattered throughout DWR: supply augmentation is the role of the SWP, water quality protection is partly an SWP responsibility and partly DES, conservation and recycling assistance is provided by OWET, conjunctive use advice comes from DPLA, flood control help is offered by DFM, and so on. Our new Water Plan challenges regions to integrate these activities, and we must accept the challenge to integrate our assistance programs as well.

This doesn't mean merging divisions or offices, but it will require all of us to work more collaboratively with others from throughout DWR so we continue to provide relevant help to local agencies. Some of these collaborative, interdisciplinary efforts are already occurring within DWR: staff from OWET and DPLA coordinated workshops on water management planning and informational meetings on applying for Prop. 50 grants. This helped local agencies understand the relationships between the two. DFM and DES are starting a new effort to improve the process of mitigating for flood control projects, and this effort will draw in experts from other DWR divisions.

All of us will be asked to think and work in new ways, to reach across division lines, to form interdisciplinary teams, to collaborate and share knowledge. In these ways, DWR and its great staff will continue to be leaders in water management. We will continue to help agencies across the state to ensure reliable and sustainable water supplies for the future.

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DWR'S EUREKA FLOOD CENTER

Far North Outpost is Both Challenging and Fulfilling to the Man who Runs it

by Don Strickland

Photos by Don Strickland

Late last year, **David Kennard**, and many other North Coast residents watched an emotionally-moving flyover by U.S. Coast Guard aircraft marking the 40th anniversary of a calamitous flood that destroyed towns, bridges, highways, railroads, and lives in and around their communities.

The ceremonies were held in Ferndale, just five miles from Kennard's Fortuna home, in the heart of rainstorm country 20-miles south of the Eureka Flood Center, which he operates as DWR's North Coast Flood Management Coordinator.

Kennard wasn't assigned to DWR's northernmost outpost until 26 years after the 1964 deluge, but he knows the story well from survivors' accounts and from the age-yellowed newspapers he keeps in his office.

On November 1, 1965, the Department of Water Resources' Eureka Flood Center opened part-time in response to that devastating 1964 flood.

Initially located in Eureka's Federal Building, the Center moved to a new Woodley Island facility in the fall of 1994, just across

Above: Fernbridge, built in 1911, was the only major North Coast highway bridge to survive the 1964 flooding. Its widely-spaced arch design allowed huge logs to pass through without causing extensive damage.

Humboldt Bay from downtown. It now shares space in the one-story redwood-shingled structure with the National Weather Service (NWS) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

For the past 15 years, the Flood Center has been managed by Engineering Associate Kennard, the son of an Air Force colonel, who was born in New Jersey but grew up around military bases in Georgia, Florida, Tennessee and Germany.

After earning a Bachelors Degree in Education from Ohio's Miami University, Kennard taught junior high school courses for five years in upstate New York and two years in Oakland, California, before enrolling at Humboldt State University in the Eureka-Arcata area to pursue a second degree in fisheries and water quality. He soon formed a strong attachment to the North Coast and its people.

In 1981, Kennard signed on with DWR and began a nine-year stint as a Water Resources Engineering Technician at the Delta Field Division (the last two years as manager of the Water Unit, the branch responsible for reservoir releases and water accounting).

The move back to Eureka came in March, 1990, to succeed the retiring **Bill Hansell**, who had managed the Flood Center for 11 years. For Kennard, it was like a homecoming. "Since my time at Humboldt State, I've felt like this is where I belong," says the well-traveled Kennard. "Even when I worked in the Delta, my family and I always spent our summer vacations at the Humboldt Lagoons."

Working with the community

Perhaps because the area's population is relatively small, Dave has developed a very personal relationship with North Coasters who live in harm's way. He says running the flood center is not the insulated bureaucratic position that many people think of when State service is mentioned.

Kennard knows how people in his area live, what's important to them. "Saving human life is our number one goal," he says, "but there are 15,000 head of cattle around here, valued at \$1,500 apiece, and they mean a lot to their owners. I once called a dairyman in the Ferndale lowlands to warn him of high water that could wash his livestock away. I could hear cows mooing in the background. He spent so much time with his animals that he had a phone in the barn."

Tracking Flood Events before the Center

Before establishment of the Eureka Flood Center, storm warnings for California's North Coastal area had been a responsibility of the National Weather Service Forecast Center in Portland, Oregon, and were historically inadequate. The 1964 flood took 29 lives but since the Flood Center was established there have been five major floods with only one human life lost – a man electrocuted while using a portable generator to pump out his garage.

"Back in the late 70s, early 80s...the DWR North Coast operation was known as the 'Eureka Satellite Flood Center.' We wanted to feel like we were more a part of the Flood



A plaque in the town of Fernbridge recalls the 29 people and 4,000 head of cattle lost to the rampaging Eel River in 1964.

Operations Center in Sacramento...so the term 'Satellite' was dropped. I think we've also upgraded our responsibility in the public consciousness and with other State and federal agencies on the North Coast – especially with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services," said Kennard.

Changing Technology

According to Kennard, there are technology advantages that we now have, as well. "We can download pictures during times of flood and send them to Sacramento to let people know exactly what's going on up here."

"The big advantage to Sacramento in this regard is that we see the storm that's impacting the coast 24 to 36 hours before the Central Valley gets it. So, we can serve as a weather beacon to help determine if the storm is for real, if it's something to look out for. Because in 24 hours, for the most part, it's going to be in the valley and the Sacramento Flood Operations Center is going to have to deal with it," said Kennard.

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DWR's **David Kennard**, sole DWR staff at the Eureka Flood Center, handles one of the many calls that the center receives daily.

The Center's Purpose

The Eureka Flood Center provides valuable advance weather information to DWR's Sacramento Flood Management headquarters but also serves as a vital early warning system for the people of the North Coast. The two areas are radically different, from a flood fight perspective. Following a flood warning to Sacramento, forces are mobilized and crews start filling sandbags. Not so on the North Coast.

"We don't even pretend to try to think that way. The levees up here were built in the mid 1960s and they're huge. They don't get boils. There's never been a boil on a levee up here that I can recall. These are huge U.S. Army Corps of Engineers levees. If a levee breached from flooding up here, the entire area would be evacuated. Nobody would go near it. You'd go in afterward and clean up," said Kennard. "The rivers in this area are 'wild and scenic.' There are no bypasses, no weirs, no impoundments. What you see in rainfall and runoff is what you get. There's nothing you can do to stop it. So, the process is early warning and coordinating with other State and federal agencies, local communities, and the Sheriff's Department. Advance notice here can be three to five days...plenty of time to get out and not wait too long to see if the storm is going to pan out. Flood fighting up here would occur on smaller intermittent inland streams that might threaten housing developments, businesses, and other infrastructure. You can't sandbag the Eel River. Our

normal discharge on the Eel during a moderate event is going to be 450,000 cubic feet per second. There's little that you can do, other than let people know with as much prognostication as possible what's likely to happen. If you've been here long enough, you know what happened in past events at that same discharge level with the same amount of rainfall. Also, we monitor weather systems as they develop and compare our data to the NWS forecast which helps us determine a storm's actual strength. They may forecast a storm coming in, let's say, 48 hours ahead of time. When it hits our coast we immediately get a feel for how close that forecast is to panning out.

That's something I can relay to Sacramento and say, this one is serious and the forecast is right on."

For North Coast residents old enough to remember nature's fury in the winter of 1964-65, the Eureka Flood Center stands as a reassuring beacon in times of crisis. They count on the facility to provide advance notice and life-saving direction when a major flood event approaches.

"I think it's a feeling of who can we turn to...who's going to help us...? This is an area that's talked about as being 'behind the redwood curtain' which means the people are kind of cut off. They live here because they like that...but when an emergency comes up they like to feel that they're afforded the same kind of protection and concern as the rest of California," said Kennard. "So, there's a very close connection between the Department of Water Resources, and the NWS, the USGS, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, OES, and other State and local agencies. That's because we know what to do when things get beyond the control of any one of us. We can do so much more when we're together. It's the same thing, I think, that they go through in Sacramento, it's just a different situation up here. The rivers up here flow at extremely high rates. We've lost entire towns, half a dozen towns, in the past. The last really bad flood we had was 1986, but no lives were lost. Before that it was 1964, when we suffered 29 flood deaths. So now, with the Flood Center, it's a matter of having enough time to get out of the way."



After the Flood of 1964, all that was left of the town of Pepperwood, California was a pile of debris along the Eel River. (Photograph by Eureka Newspapers, Inc.)

The 1964 Flood and other disasters

The devastation of 1964 made North Coasters realize the dangers of living close to the rivers and the ocean. Now, they tend to build a safe distance from the water.

"I often tell people that I don't think there can be a revisit to the trauma and death of the '64 flood. The towns washed away back then did not come back and relocate close to the rivers again. The town of Klamath is no longer where it was. Dyerville is gone. Pepperwood is gone. Myers Flat and Weott have moved up the hill. So you just don't have the same capability of that happening again. But as far as inundation is concerned, the water going wherever it wants to go, that will always happen," said Kennard. "Another safety factor is that the lumber companies no longer stack cut logs in the watershed, close to the rivers. In 1964, there were logs 250-feet long that weighed tons and tons. Every one that came down the river was like a locomotive. If one hit a house, it would knock it off its foundation. The logs, I think, were secondary to the water, but a lot of damage would not have happened without the heavy debris carried by the water."

Recently, the world was made aware of the destructive potential of flooding by the huge tsunami that hit parts of Asia. In March, 1964, there was a devastating tsunami at Crescent City – the only tsunami ever to take lives in the continental United States. It washed away 29 city blocks, killed 11 people and caused \$7.5 million in damage. More than 40 years later, Crescent City motels still have fliers in the rooms advising guests how to survive a huge tidal wave.

"The Eureka Flood Center tries to react and respond to all water-related issues on the North Coast. It's not just flooding of the major rivers. It can be a water quality issue, a water rights issue, it could be an earthquake, it could be a tsunami. With tsunamis up here, we have good natural characteristics and bad ones. At Crescent City, the lay of the land under the water surface tends to telescope tsunamis into the harbor where they can do a great deal of damage. At Eureka, Humboldt Bay dissipates tsunami waves. We've had seven point zero earthquakes off our coast that have not caused major tsunamis. Nevertheless, we are connected to the Office of Emergency Services so that if we get a 30-foot wave, we know in advance what we're going to do," said Kennard. "We know we're going to be in a lot of trouble because the area is going to be so cut off, especially if it happens in the winter. But, we're at a point now that I don't think people would be stunned by it. We know where the fault plates are off our coast and we know that we're extremely susceptible and that it's just a matter of time until it happens. Normally a major eight or nine point earthquake happens off the North Coast every 300 years...and our 300-year period is up right now. So, we stay vigilant."

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In 1964, the train bridge collapsed at the junction where the south fork feeds into main fork of the Eel River. The water level reached an estimated 30 feet.

The Early Warning Network

Back in the early '70s (with the help of the USGS and the NWS) a flood telemetry network was installed at the very economical cost, by today's standards, of \$400,000. It basically consists of microwave antennas on the coastal range mountains, connected to river valley stations where there are rain and river gages. Between Napa and the Oregon border there are 35 of them. The official measurer of California's rivers is the USGS and the watchdog of California's weather is the National Weather Service. The Department of Water Resources maintains the early warning network. About seven years ago the network was updated with the help of satellite telemetry, which provides a dual fallback situation. If the microwave goes out, Kennard has satellite backup.

"We were kind of skeptical about satellite telemetry to begin with because we didn't know much about satellites. But, as it turns out, they're more reliable than the microwave system. As the storms come in, especially as they hit the Kings Range off the coast, we can tell within the first six hours whether they're delivering the amount of rainfall that was forecast, particularly the kind of rainfall that could get us into trouble, and can watch

"The rivers in this area are 'wild and scenic.' There are no bypasses, no weirs, no impoundments. What you see in rainfall and runoff is what you get. There's nothing you can do to stop it."

—David Kennard

hypothermia with the cattle," said Kennard. "Or, we can get subtropical storms out of Hawaii (like the ones in 1955, 1964 and 1986) that are immediate flood hazards for us. When a 'pineapple express' blows in, the worst part is not knowing when it's going to leave. It can get locked in by different pressures on either side of it and you don't know how long it's going to stay over you, whether it'll be two or three days...or seven or eight. Plus, it's subtropical rain so the temperature is usually about 65 to 67 degrees and the raindrops are huge. One of the sayings up here is 'if you can smell the Coppertone in the air, you know you're in trouble.'"

Covering the area

While Kennard gets some help from a Student Assistant, he's still basically a one-man band with lots of real estate to cover. To meet the challenge, Dave relies to a great deal on his technology. He spends a lot of time in the field during the summer, performing equipment maintenance. He has to make sure the remote devices work when he closes the doors on his data-gathering stations in late fall. Reaching many of his field sites in the winter is just about impossible because of the rugged terrain and the distance between them.

"Our northern reach goes up to a place called Elk Valley, which is right on the Oregon border. Our southern reach goes all the way down to Napa, where we have a gage downtown on the Napa River. To the east, there's a place at the foothills of the Trinity Alps called Mud Springs, about halfway between Willow Creek and Weaverville. My area of responsibility covers about

the storms work their way inland. Two kinds of systems really give us trouble. One is a series of what I would call mid-latitude storms that are colder than normal, some out of the Aleutians. We can get five or six in a row hitting us every three days, which means the rivers don't have a chance to recede. That can get us into flood trouble and also cause



Kennard and Student Assistant **Matt Smith** look at newspaper accounts of the 1964 North Coast flood.

20,000 square miles. The hardest part of showing a visitor the area is its hugeness. To see one location, you might spend three and a half hours to get there...40 minutes onsite...and another three and a half hours to get home. I think that explains why DWR flood management coordinators stay up here so long. You can't know this job in, say, four years and then leave. Ten years is about right. In seven to 10 years you start to feel comfortable with the different personalities of each watershed and how they behave," said Kennard. "So, if you get a certain type of weather system into the Smith watershed you can say 'well, I've been through that before and I think I know what's going to happen'...as opposed to another weather system that might come into the Russian or the Eel. What's important is getting

to know each area individually. I also have a student who works with me and he's the other part of the office. We've been fortunate enough to be able to hire mostly engineering students from Humboldt State University who usually work about 12 to 16 hours a week. The level of competence that these students have is just remarkable and we've been extremely fortunate to have the students that we've had and this office would not function as well without them. This is a prized job for them while they go to school and I can't think of any student who has left here after putting in three or four years who has not found the work experience gratifying. In addition, their resumes are thick with experience that normal students never get. My former hydrologic assistant for three and a half years,

[>>> continued on next page](#)

Kennard checks weather instruments next to the Klamath River near the town of Orick.



The Eureka Flood Center has an office in this Woodley Island building, which is also used by the National Weather Service and the U.S. Geological Survey.



Brian Hodgson, landed a job with a Eureka engineering firm immediately after graduation.”

Working a one-man operation so far from DWR headquarters has obvious advantages and disadvantages. But, Kennard says they weigh out about equally.

“My predecessor, **Bill Hansell**, used to say that the biggest disadvantage of being assigned here was not being around DWR colleagues to share his ups and downs with, his victories and his defeats. I would go along with that. It can be very trying not to have your colleagues and your buddies here, to only know people by their telephone voices or by e-mail,” said Kennard. “On the other hand, you realize that you’re not in bumper-to-bumper commuting up here and instead of being in an office with a couple of thousand people, you’re in an office with 27 people. So, there’s personal contact up here that may be a little more intimate. Still, one misses working with people from the same agency going to social functions like spring picnics, Christmas luncheons and retirement parties. You do miss the camaraderie. It’s a real trade-off and I think the longer you work here, the more you miss the normal co-worker contact. But, this is a fantastic place to raise children and one of the most naturally beautiful spots on earth. I feel privileged to be here.”

The Eureka Flood Center was established to:

- Maintain the telemetry system that measures rainfall and river levels on the Redwood Creek, and the Smith, Klamath, Trinity, Mad, Van Duzen, Eel, Napa, and Russian River basins. (The telemetry system helps provide early flood warnings.)
- Assist the local public.

To maintain the readiness of the North Coast’s Flood Warning Network, the Eureka Flood Center works year-round with the National Weather Service; United States Geological Survey; Humboldt, Del Norte and Mendocino county Offices of Emergency Services; Sheriff’s Departments; news media; California Departments of Forestry and Fire Protection, Transportation, and Parks & Recreation; California Highway Patrol; U.S. Coast Guard, and various private entities. Between flood seasons, the Eureka Flood Center works with the various agencies to review and update Emergency Action Plans, respond to information requests, and maintain positive working relationships.

State Water Contractors Profile—

San Geronio Pass Water Agency Chief Steve Stockton Plans To Retire In June

by Pete Weisser

When **Steve Stockton** retires in June after 13 years as leader of the San Geronio Pass Water Agency, his major legacy will be his role in bringing SWP water to his region of Southern California's Inland Empire.

"It will pay dividends to this area for many years to come," stated Stockton, 66, the agency's General Manager and Chief Engineer since 1992, and a strong advocate for the SWP pipeline.

The San Geronio Pass Water Agency was the last of the original SWP contractors to receive SWP water. Though the Agency entered into a contract with the State to purchase supplemental water in 1962 and area residents paid for water during four decades, it was 2003 before Phase I of the East Branch Extension was completed.

This \$124 million pipeline now provides a vital SWP water link to the Beaumont-Banning-Redlands-Yucaipa region of Southern California. The project faced many legal, financial and environmental challenges, which Stockton was hired in 1992 to help overcome.

"The Agency's board really recruited me to get the pipeline built, realizing that SWP water would be needed to help keep pace with the kind of development we are seeing in this region today," recalled Stockton, a veteran engineer with 40 years experience with water agencies in California. Pipeline construction took five years.

The project was a partnership effort of DWR, San Geronio Pass Water Agency and neighboring San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District.

SWP water is welcome in the 250-square mile San Geronio Pass Water Agency service area, a scenic mountainous region with a desert climate and expanding development.

As he prepares to retire, Stockton foresees a continued strong reliance by his region on SWP water.

In retirement, he plans to spend more time with his wife, Leda, their two adult daughters, and two grandchildren. He will also play more golf.

A graduate of the University of Redlands, Stockton spent four decades in the water business in Southern California, starting as a draftsman in the East Valley Water District in Highland.



Steve Stockton speaks at groundbreaking for East Branch Extension of the California Aqueduct on August 23, 1999.

From 1964 to 1978, he was an engineer with the City of Redlands water division. Prior to taking the helm at the San Geronio Pass Water Agency, he served as Operations Manager for the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District. He was affiliated with that district from 1978-1992, starting as a design and construction engineer. At San Bernardino, he was involved with early planning of what later became the East Branch Extension.

While at the City of Redlands, he was one of the principal architects of the 1976 east valley water exchange plan that brought 10 water agencies and companies together to maximize the local waters for the benefit of the region. That exchange plan now operates as part of the East Branch Extension of the SWP.

A photograph of two men, Bill Pennington and David Panec, standing outdoors at the Oroville Dam. They are both wearing plaid shirts; Pennington is also wearing a safety vest. They are looking at a large set of drawings or plans that Pennington is holding. The background shows the dam structure and a body of water under a clear sky.

FERC's Seventh Part 12 **SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT**

by Margarita Macias

Left to Right: Bill Pennington of Safety of Dams and David Panec of Operations and Maintenance review drawings at Oroville Dam.

Photos by DWR Photography Unit

With the completion of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) Seventh Part 12 Dam Safety Inspection Report in 2005, several recommendations were developed for the Oroville-Thermalito Complex. The Complex, located along the Feather River in Northern California, stores approximately 3.5 million acre-feet of water and generates power from releases through three power plants.

The Part 12 Safety Report meets the requirements of the Federal Code of Regulations (Title 18, Part 12, Subpart D). Under this regulation, all FERC-regulated dams are to be jointly inspected with proper coordination and support of the licensee, by an Independent Consultant every five years. Unlike past Part 12 Safety Inspection Reports, as of 2001, FERC is requiring all licensees to complete two "one-time" additional tasks. These are a Potential Failure Mode Analysis (PFMA) and a Supplemental Technical Information Document (STID).

The Potential Failure Mode Analysis

"The underlying purpose of the PFMA is to determine if there are any viable potential failure modes associated with the project's structures or operation and if there are, to ensure that the monitoring/visual surveillance plan for the project is appropriately addressing the potential failure modes," said **Larry Von Thun**, co-founder of the PFMA process and a former Bureau of Reclamation engineer for 30 years. There are, however, other important side benefits of the PFMA process including:

- an enhanced understanding of the project and project structures and the important issues associated with project operation
- a succinct capturing of the critical issues for posterity
- the collection and assembling of information about the project that may be on its way to oblivion
- an improved understanding of the facility and its monitoring by staff dealing with the project on a day- to-day basis

In 1995, Larry was asked to develop a process for identifying the long-term dam monitoring needs for dams that had already been through the dam safety evaluation and remediation process. He developed a process termed "Performance Parameters" along with other Bureau of Reclamation staff and from 1995 to 1997, the Bureau of Reclamation used this analysis process on about 150 dams.

"After using this new process only a few times, we realized that it was a very effective dam safety evaluation tool that should be linked with the commonly used five to six year periodic inspections," said Larry. "Today, this process, which was subsequently modified and adapted by a FERC commissioned team of dam owners, independent consultants and FERC staff, is termed a PFMA. The process has also been used throughout the United States and other countries, such as New Zealand and Canada using various other names and adaptations."

The PFMA for the Oroville-Thermalito Complex preceded the Part 12 safety inspection to help develop the recommendations for the Part 12 Reports. During the PFMA, participants included selected Engineering, Operations and Maintenance and Safety of Dams staff familiar with the Oroville-Thermalito Complex as well as DWR retirees. These current and former DWR employees worked with Dr. Peter Hradilek and Mr. Wayne Edwards, who are Part 12 Independent Consultants, Gerry Maloney, who is the FERC representative, and Mr. Von Thun, the PFMA Facilitator. From this group, a "core team of readers" spent long hours reviewing hundreds of current and historical Oroville-Thermalito Complex documents that had been assembled by DWR staff.

To develop the PFMA report, PFMA Team Leader **David Panec**, Chief of Operations and Maintenance's Civil Maintenance Branch Dam Safety Section, coordinated with Facilitator Larry, the independent consultants, and DWR representatives as part of the PFMA core team. DWR representatives on the core team included **Les Harder**, formerly Chief of the Division of Engineering and now Chief of the Division of Flood Management, **Bill Pennington**, Senior Engineer, Division of Safety of Dams, **Maury Miller**, Chief of the Operations Branch in Oroville Field Division, and **Frank Glick**, Chief of Project Geology in the Division of Engineering. The three primary



*Standing before the PFMA participants, PFMA Facilitator **Larry Von Thun**, addresses a hypothesized potential failure mode as depicted on the white board behind him. Larry encouraged PFMA participants to ask questions or make comments that helped substantiate or invalidate hypothesized potential failure modes. Participants in the PFMA discussion sessions included DWR experts from various Divisions as well as retirees who worked on the dams. In the background (Left to Right: DWR Retired Annuitants **Sam Linn** of Engineering, **Larry Transtrum** of Operations and Maintenance, and **Ted Esau** of Oroville Field Division.*

assignments of the core team were to carry out a site review including on-site discussions with operations personnel, to make a comprehensive review of background data and information related to the dam, and to participate in the discussion to determine the Potential Failure Modes of each dam.

In an effort to prepare for the September 2004 PFMA meeting, several Operations and Maintenance Dam Safety Section engineers completed the monumental task of finding and gathering 1,200 reports from Operations and Maintenance, Engineering, Safety of Dams, and the San Francisco FERC office. These reports provided historical, technical, geological, monitoring, and other project information. Some groups, such as Engineering's Dams and Canals Section, contributed 300 documents to the PFMA exercise.

"For about four months, we collected and reviewed data ranging from original design calculations and design reports to soil data and periodic specialized studies," said **Jeanne Kuttel**, Chief of Engineering's Dam and Canals Section who has worked 13 years for DWR.

After the experts reviewed the reports for several days and long hours, PFMA sessions were held to discuss and identify Potential Failure Modes for each of the structures. During the discussion sessions, the core team along with selected DWR staff focused on any reasonable mode of failure for each dam in the Oroville-Thermalito Complex.

>>> continued on next page

"The exercise was very thorough in that it addressed virtually every possible scenario on how any of our Oroville-Thermalito Complex dam facilities could fail and evaluated means of improving the safety of those structures," said David, who has worked for 10 years at DWR. "The result is a great document that many others will continue to use as a resource."

Supplemental Technical Information Documents

All of the information developed during the PFMA was documented in a draft report prepared by HDR Engineering, the consultant firm hired by DWR, then the draft report was peer reviewed by Independent Facilitator Larry. It was also reviewed

by the other core team members and David. Then, HDR added the PFMA report to the STID, which is also required by FERC.

"The STID is basically a living document of the facility," said David. "It contains a variety of information, such as the hydrology, geology, seismicity, design, construction history, and maintenance information. After reviewing this document, you should know everything that has been done to that particular facility."

HDR Engineering began producing all elements of the Dam Safety Report in June of 2004. After doing detailed research and several field inspections, HDR completed in April of 2005 the 10 reports of which five were Part 12 Dam Safety

Reports and five were STIDs. The reports covered facilities, such as the Oroville Dam and Hyatt Pumping-Generating Plant, Thermalito Diversion Dam and Powerplant, Thermalito Afterbay Dam, Feather River Fish Barrier Dam, and the Thermalito Forebay Dam and Pumping-Generating Plant.

To complete the FERC Part 12 safety inspection exercise, inspections of the Oroville-Thermalito Complex were done by DWR, FERC, and HDR Engineering staff.



Left to Right: **Peter Hradilek** of HDR Engineering, **Richard Sanchez** of DWR's SWP Operations Support Office, **Gerard Maloney** of FERC, and **Alex Samaan** of DWR's Oroville Field Division inspected the Toe-drain well at the base of the Thermalito Afterbay Dam to observe the water elevation during a recent 2004 FERC Part 12 safety inspection exercise.

Achieving Two Purposes

In addition to being used to meet the FERC requirement, the PFMA will also be used to meet the requirements of the Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). DSOD requires that all State-owned dams be reviewed by an independent board of consultants every five years. This process is called the Dam Safety Review Board.

"The idea was to put some efficiency in the review process and yet meet the needs of both programs," said **Bill Pennington**, who worked 30 years for the Bureau of Reclamation and was trained in PFMA before coming to DWR in 2000.



PFMA participants listen as potential failure modes are discussed. Front Row (Left to Right): DWR Retirees **Ted Esau**, **Larry Transtrum**, and **Sam Linn**. Along the center table (Right to Left): **Gerry Maloney** (FERC Engineer), **Bill Cochran** (Oroville Field Division Engineering Branch Chief), **Maury Miller** (OFD, Operations Branch Chief), **Richard Sanchez** (Chief of SWP Operations Support Office), **Rashid Ahmad** (DOE, Supervising Engineer Specialist), **Dr. Peter Hradilek** (HDR Engineering, FERC Part 12 Independent Consultant), **Wayne Edwards** (FERC Part 12 Independent Consultant), **Bill Pennington** (DSOD, Senior Engineer). Along Back Row: **Serg Sinevod** (O&M, Engineering Student), **Dan Garcia** (O&M, Engineer), **David Ferguson** (OFD, Retired Annuitant), **Jeanne Kuttel** (DOE, Dams and Canals Section Chief), **Mike Anderson** (O&M, Engineer), **Vincent Homdus** (O&M, Engineer), **Herb Hereth** (DFM, Retired Annuitant), and **Jacquie Bolf** (OFD, Engineer Technician II).

In the foreground, documents on the table are from the last 50 years covering the design, construction, maintenance, instrumentation and regulatory correspondence of the Oroville-Thermalito Complex dams. Over 1200 documents were assembled and available for review by the PFMA Core Team. In the background, The PFMA Core team debriefs after a completed discussion session. In the debriefing, each team member takes a turn identifying a major finding and understanding that was brought to light during the discussion session.



"Having a completed PFMA report saying that DWR facilities are some of the best maintained facilities will always be an advantageous thing," said **Jeanne Kuttel**. "I feel it also helps to identify any weakness in the facilities as well, which will ultimately help us to keep better watch of those "weakest links."

FERC's comments on the Safety Inspection Report are expected by 2005. The report, which previously ran up to 400 pages in 1999, provides a description of project features, summary of construction and operation, geology and seismic considerations, instrumentation and monitoring data, field inspections, spillway adequacy, structural stability, adequacy of maintenance and methods of operation, and conclusions and recommendations. It also includes resumes of consultants.

"The completion of the PFMA's for the Part 12 Safety Report demonstrated the cooperation and success of a multi-divisional effort," said **Richard Sanchez**, Chief of SWP Operations Support Office. "We can accomplish great things here at DWR when we work as a unified team."

The next report scheduled for completion by September 2005 is on Pyramid-Castaic Power Complex on the West Branch and Mojave-Devil Canyon Power Complex on the East Branch. The PFMA for these two Southern California complexes was completed in January of 2005.

DWR Alumni Club Lunch



Left to Right: George Armstrong, Division of Planning and Local Assistance retiree, Bob Bailey, Land and Right of Way retiree, and Mona Lopez assist with registration at the luncheon. The next Alumni Club event is the Fall Alumni Picnic on September 8th at Howe Park in Sacramento.



Left to Right: Don Babbitt, Safety of Dams retiree, and Ernie James, Design and Construction (now Division of Engineering) retiree attended the annual DWR Alumni luncheon on March 3 at the Elks Club in Carmichael. During the luncheon with approximately 156 people, an election for three new directors was held. The new directors included Mona Lopez, Management Services retiree, Steve Cohen, Office of the Chief Counsel retiree, and Nancy Keaton, Management Services retiree.

DWR Director Signs Oroville Relicensing Application



On January 26, DWR Director Lester Snow (center) signed DWR's application for a new federal license to operate the Oroville Facilities. (Left to Right) Joining in the signing were Barbara McDonnell of Environmental Services, Rick Ramirez and Ralph Torres of Oroville Facilities Relicensing Program (now Chief of the Division of Engineering), and Ward Tabor of the Chief Counsel's Office.

New Runner Arrives at Oroville's Hyatt Powerplant

As part of Oroville's Hyatt Powerplant refurbishment project, Unit 4 is one of three pump-turbines being updated. The new runner (a water wheel inside the pump-turbine) was manufactured by GE Hydro Power, Inc. near Oslo, Norway. The runner crown and the band (plates on the top and bottom of the runner) were fabricated in South Korea and then shipped to Norway, where the blades were made and attached to complete the assembly.

Shipped from Norway on January 7, the 165,000 pound runner with a diameter of 19 feet arrived at Port Hueneme in Southern California on February 16. It was loaded on a truck for the scheduled multi-day trip up Interstate 5 to Oroville, but mudslides and road closures delayed delivery until March 4.

"The delivery of this runner is a result of dedicated work of many staff and a credit to the Division of Engineering and Operations and Maintenance," said **Farshid Falaki**, Chief of the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Branch in the Division of Engineering.

Photos and a video of the runner when it arrived at the Hyatt facility are available in DWR's Graphic Services and on AquaNet's archive. Photos were taken by DWR's Photography Unit and video was taken by **Mark Lambert** of DWR's Film/Video Unit.

To learn more about this project, read the DWR News/People article featured in the DWR NEWS/People Spring issue in DWR's Web site at <http://www.publicaffairs.water.ca.gov/dwrnewsletter/>



Equal Opportunity and Management Investigations Chief

Aileen Tokunaga was appointed Chief of the Equal Opportunity and Management Investigations Office by Chief Deputy Director Joseph Grindstaff. Her appointment was effective February 1.

"The Equal Opportunity and Management Investigations field is in line with my law degree. I think it's one of the most interesting fields in law and it is always changing," said Aileen.

"Our office will make every effort to ensure there is a discrimination free work environment for all employees at the Department of Water Resources," said Aileen.

Aileen received her Juris Doctorate degree from the Northern California School of Law in 1994. She was the acting Discrimination Officer for the Department of Motor Vehicles in

1999, and also worked in DMV's Legal Affairs Division assisting the Senior Staff Counsel on civil rights and employee litigation.

Before joining DWR, Aileen was Regional Manager in Sacramento, and earlier in Rancho Cucamonga for the Department of Corrections, Office of Civil Rights. She also served as acting statewide Program Manager for the Office of Civil Rights.

"This is a wonderful office with interesting subject matter and it will be a nice change for me," said Aileen.



Division of Engineering Has New Chief

Raphael Torres, known to the Department as Ralph, was appointed Chief of the Division of Engineering on February 8.

"It has been a great opportunity to work for DWR," said Ralph, who has been with the Department more than 25 years. "The folks here are the best. The standards are the highest. It has been very challenging and at the same time very satisfying."

Ralph's DWR career began as a Student Assistant working for the dam design unit in the Division of Design and Construction (now Division of Engineering). He quickly progressed up the promotional ladder to become the Principal Engineer responsible for the Civil Engineering Branch. He then changed hats and became the assistant Division Chief for the Division of Operations and Maintenance. Most recently, he was Executive Manager for FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) relicensing of the Oroville Facilities. The Department's relicensing application was submitted to FERC on January 26, with the expectation that a new license will be issued by January 31, 2007.

After managing the strenuous relicensing application process, Ralph now has a new challenge in his DWR career. He says what he hopes to accomplish in his new position is to "maintain the high standard of excellence that the Division has set. As the builders of the best State Water Project in the world, they (Division of Engineering) have established criteria and practices that are followed worldwide. It will be a daunting task to maintain this with today's technical and social changes."

Ralph is certainly a chief in many aspects of his life. When he is not busy with his many tasks at DWR, he enjoys spending time with his family, a wife and three children. He is also a musician, playing the saxophone for many local jazz bands in his hometown of Sacramento.



Steve Verigin Appointed Deputy Director for Public Safety and Business Operations

With 26 years of dam safety, engineering, and business process experience, **Steve Verigin** was appointed Deputy Director for Public Safety and Business Operations on January 1.

Steve will oversee the Divisions of Flood Management, Safety of Dams, Management Services, Fiscal Services, and Technology Services. He also will oversee the Internal Audits Office, Departmental Security, and the Enterprise Business and Strategic Planning Office.

"Since 9/11, the floods of 1986 and 1997, and the *Paterno v. State of California* decision, there is a heightened awareness and greater expectations for improved public safety," said Steve.

"The diminishing resources and growing population have made the public safety challenges even greater for the future."

Among Steve's top assignments are implementation of the Flood Management White Paper recommendations, the Delta Levees Comprehensive Program Evaluation, and review of dams along the seismically active Hayward Fault.

"After working on business process improvements following SAP implementation, I have gained a great interest in the business operations of the Department," said Steve. "We identified 20 initiatives at the first Department Management Meeting including improving budgeting, decreasing overhead costs, and streamlining the contract process."

Steve received his Bachelor of Science degree at the University of California, Davis and his Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from California State University, Sacramento. He is also a licensed Professional Civil and Geotechnical Engineer.

Before joining DWR, Steve worked a year for Continental Heller Corporation as a Construction Engineer. He performed site surveys, building layout, building estimates, and coordination

of work for the building that now is the Men's Macy's on the K Street Mall in downtown Sacramento.

Steve's DWR career began in 1979 as a Junior Civil Engineer for the Division of Design and Construction (now the Division of Engineering). He was the lead Design Engineer for the Mojave Siphon Intake modification.

In 1983, Steve joined the Division of Safety of Dams as a Design Engineer. He approved designs of more than 50 dam safety projects. His technical specialties were geotechnical, structural, and water-related design engineering. After four years, he became Field Engineer, a position in which he was responsible for the safety of 160 dams in Southern California. He performed and supervised 200 dam inspections annually. He supervised dam safety aspects of construction of 10 major new dam and retrofit projects.

"I enjoyed working 20 years of my career in Dam Safety, especially in the Field Engineering Branch," said Steve. "Things happen so fast, so you get to see the results immediately."

In 1990, he was Chief of Design Section III, where he was Project Engineer for major dam projects, such as the Diamond Valley Reservoir dam. He became Chief of the Design Engineering Branch in 1998 and Chief of DSOD in 1999. In 2003, Steve was appointed Acting Chief Deputy Director.



DWR's Roger Linder Donates Blood for over Three Decades

Roger Linder is a one-man blood bank.

Over a time span of three decades, this softspoken DWR employee has donated more than 10 gallons of blood to help injured and ill people facing medical emergencies.

"During the 70s, I started donating blood while I was in my 20s," said Roger. "At that time, the Sacramento Blood Bank was collecting blood at its facility at a big municipal water tank near Alhambra Boulevard. Neighborhood kids used to say that tank was full of blood."

Thirty years and many gallons of Type O blood later, Roger remains a productive blood donor. "I'm up around 90 pints now and still producing."

"Roger is a great role model for potential blood donors," said **Lynne Bitnoff**, DWR Blood Drive Chairperson. "Following his example, Roger's two adult sons are also donors."

Roger is not only a reliable, veteran blood donor, he also functions as webmaster for DWR's blood drive Web site, accessible at: <http://donateblood.water.ca.gov>.

"Donating blood is a simple thing to do," said Roger. "It helps a lot of people and the donating process is very relaxed and easy."

A DWR employee since 1978, Roger is now a Systems Software Specialist III in the Network and Communications Support Office of the Division of Technology Services. He explains his motivation to donate blood this way:

"There is a continual need – sometimes a desperate need – to refresh supplies of blood and blood products to meet emergency medical needs. Blood and blood products have a limited shelf-life and need to be replaced on a regular basis."

DWR's six annual blood donation events – one every other month – make donating blood impossible to forget and easy to do. It sends a regular stream of donated blood flowing to places of need, even during vacation and holiday seasons when blood stocks sometimes get depleted and supplies dip low.



Donating blood is easy and can be done almost effortlessly through the bimonthly events in the Resources Building's first floor auditorium. A single pint of blood can be separated into its various components – red blood cells, plasma and platelets – and given to patients with different medical needs.

During two of the 2005 Resources Building Blood Drives, 123 pints of blood were collected. The Blood Drive collected 58 pints on January 11 and 65 pints on March 8.

Future Blood Drives are scheduled for July 12, September 6 and November 8.

Donors must be in general good health, weigh at least 110 pounds and be at least 17 years of age. For information about donating blood, you can contact blood drive chairperson **Lynne Bitnoff** at 653-5956, visit the Blood Source's Web site at www.bloodsource.org or e-mail questions to blooddrive@water.ca.gov.

DWR's Tito Cervantes: AKA 'Mr. Softball'

by Don Strickland

When DWR Northern District Land and Water Use Section Chief **Xavier "Tito" Cervantes** isn't on the State clock, he takes a serious interest in softball.

That is a major understatement.

Holder of a Bachelor of Science Degree in Soil Resource Management from the University of California, Berkeley. Cervantes began his DWR career in March of 1987, working initially in the Water Quality Section, then the Groundwater Section and finally the Land and Water Use Section.

About that same time, Tito embarked on a dedicated mission to develop young north State softball players for the high school and college levels and to establish the most organized program and coaching staff in the Fast Pitch Organization.

He also set for himself some ambitious goals, such as to finish within the top five in the American Softball Association Nationals and produce the dominant team in the California "A" Olympic Fast Pitch Program.

After 24 years of coaching organized softball, Tito has more than fulfilled his mission and definitely surpassed his goals. A short list of his softball accomplishments include four California State Championships with four different teams, the 1995 National Championship, runner-up in the 1996 and 1997 National Championships, first place in the Julie Smith Gold Medal Classic in 2000, and Tito's North Valley Rapids team finished in the top three spots in five out of six tournaments that had a pool of nine or more teams in 2000.

His proudest coaching success has to be watching his daughter, Cassie, blossom into one of the north State's most sought-after high school players.

Tito Cervantes with his daughter Cassie, who has practiced her softball skills weekly since she was six years old.



A pitcher with a 69-mile per hour fastball, Cassie led the Northern Section with a barely recordable earned run average of 0.21 in 11 games. She also hits well: posting a .659 average in winning the Mid-Valley League's Most Valuable Player title.

She'll be going to California State University, Sacramento in the fall on a full-ride Scholarship.

If you ask Tito why his daughter is such a softball success he'll credit his wife.

"Her mom, Tena, has been catching Cassie since day one and Tena is still considered one of the best catcher/athletes in Northern California," said Tito. "Also, her mom and I started teaching Cassie the fundamentals when she was only six-years-old."

With Cassie headed for what promises to be a stellar college athletic career and his impressive list of team titles, one might surmise that Tito has done everything he might want to do as a coach. But, that's not the case. "There are always players that are diamonds in the rough and all it takes to make them shine is a lot of patience and support," said Tito.

In the near future, Tito and Tena plan to keep a close watch on Cassie's college athletic career and continue coaching youth groups in the area. "Who knows how many diamonds are still out there?" said Tito.



Tito (back row at left) and his daughter Cassie (middle row, second to left) stand with North Valley Rapids team holding 2004 awards for entrance to the western nationals.

DWR's 2004 Annual Awards

Each year, the Director presents awards to recognize Department individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department and to State Government in general. DWR congratulates the following award recipients.

DIRECTOR'S AWARD



GOLD
Steve Verigin
Deputy Director
Public Safety and Business Operations

MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD



SILVER
Carol Scott-Karnezis
Staff Services Manager II
Operations and Maintenance

MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Mark Cowin
CEA
Planning and Local Assistance



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Mark Holderman
Supervising Engineer
Bay Delta Office



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
David Lawson
Senior Engineer
Flood Management



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Robert Yeadon
Senior Engineer
Flood Management

OUTSTANDING OFFICE SERVICES ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Alex Andrade
 Business Services Assistant
 (Specialist)
 Environmental Services



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Janiene Friend
 Executive Secretary
 Planning and Local Assistance



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Darlene Griffin
 Office Technician
 Planning and Local Assistance

(no photo available)

SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Virginia Hernandez
 Office Technician
 Operations and
 Maintenance

OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Marilyn Evans-Jones
 Staff Services Manager I
 Fiscal Services



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Cordi McDaniel
 Graphic Designer II
 Public Affairs Office

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD



SUPERIOR
Hans Walter
Environmental Scientist
Environmental Services



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Ghassan Alqaser
Engineer
SWPAO



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Sarah Ayres
Administrative Officer I
Office of the Chief Counsel



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Elena Behnam
Senior Engineer
Operations and Maintenance



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Fethi Benjema
Associate Land and Water Use
Scientist
Office of Water Use Efficiency



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Barbara Cross
Land and Water Use Program
Manager I
Planning and Local Assistance



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Terry Douke
Associate Specification Writer
Engineering



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Frederick Feyrer
Environmental Scientist
Environmental Services



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
William Gow
Associate Electrical Engineer
Engineering



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Kamyar Guivetchi
Principal Engineer
Planning and Local Assistance



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
David Huston
Engineer
Central District



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Carrol Leong
Senior Land Surveyor
Engineering

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD



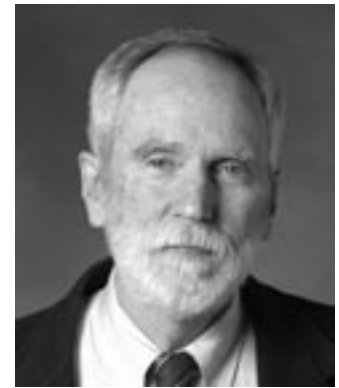
SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Scott Matyac
 Senior Land and Water Use
 Scientist
 Planning and Local Assistance



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Masood Mesbah
 Senior Mechanical Engineer
 Engineering



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Brian Niski
 Associate Information Systems
 Analyst
 Planning and Local Assistance



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
James O'Brien
 Staff Counsel III
 Office of the Chief Counsel



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Jeff Patterson
 Principal Engineer/Deputy
 Division Chief
 Engineering



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Jerome Ripperda
 Senior Environmental Scientist
 Environmental Services



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Linda Scherr
 Administrative Officer
 Executive and Management
 Services



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Donald Strickland
 Information Officer I
 Public Affairs Office



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Loi Tran
 Engineer
 Operations and Maintenance



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Jean Witzman
 Environmental Scientist
 Environmental Services



SUSTAINED SUPERIOR
Larry Yu
 Systems Software Specialist III
 CERS

2004 Trainers of the Year

DWR's Employee Career Development Committee (ECDC) devoted part of its December 13, 2004 meeting honoring seven DWR employees for their contribution to the Department's training program.

ECDC recognized two employees with the Trainer of the Year Award: **Robert Pierotti** and **Jennifer Wong** of Division of Planning and Local Assistance's Southern District. Both Robert and Jennifer were recognized for their many hours developing new class material and presenting Water Quality Basics classes to DWR employees throughout the State, and for sharing their knowledge, expertise and time to meet the Department's Training Goals and Objectives.

The award for Training Coordinator of the Year was jointly awarded to **Linda Sprecher** of the Division of Operations and Maintenance's State Water Project Operations Control Office,

and **Mary Bennyhoff** from the Division of Planning and Local Assistance's Central District, in appreciation of their efforts to consistently and conscientiously coordinate the training of the many DWR employees at their locations.

The Training Unit of the Year was awarded to **Mark Lambert**, **John Chacon** and **Albert Madrid** of the Public Affairs Office's Motion Picture and Television Unit, for their prompt and professional services provided in the development of training DVDs for the Workplace Safety Briefings and the Environmental Justice Workshop. Their efforts provided the Training Office with yet another resource to offer to DWR employees to help meet mandated training requirements.

The Training Office would also like to recognize the many volunteer trainers who share their time and knowledge to help keep DWR's excellent training programs running smoothly.

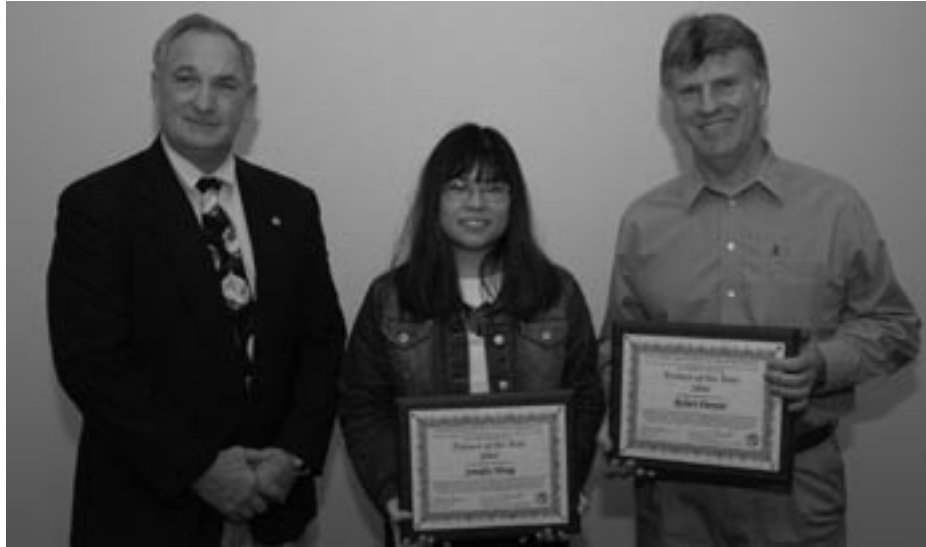
John Addington
Judy Alexander
Lynne Baker
Rene Bayardo
Cindy Beach
Jodie Benson
Mike Bingaman
Jim Brantley
John Bunce
Maria Buric
Marla Burnett
Rick Burnett
Susie Cano-Guzman
Julie Carrasco-Minton
Pam Ceccarelli
Darren Choyce
Bill Collins
Rhett Cotter
Linda Currie
Sharmane Daniels
Allan Davis
Kimberly Deane
Rene Delacerda
Cosme Diaz
Jennifer Dong
Robert Duffey

Sonny Eboigbe
Marilyn Evans-Jones
Bob Floyd
Myra Galvez
Jennifer Geregthy
Maria Gomez
Joanna Gonzales
Joe Gonzales
Linda Goodman
Germaine Gordon
Jerry Green
Pam Hart
Carl Hauge
Jon Hickey
Bob Highhill
Arthur Hinojosa
Scott Hunt
Tina Johnson
Curtis Johnston
Brenda Journagan
Kristie Joyce
Kathie Kishaba
Dave Kearney
Colleen Kirtlan
Karina Kugel
Richard Le

Marilyn Lee
Shannon Lee
Carrol Leong
John Leahigh
Bill Mahon
Scott Martin
Chris Mattos
Angel Melendez
Maury Miller
Michael Miller
Frank Nadal
Marge Nagel
Chanda Nelson
Brian Niski
Alan Ng
Tina Nycum
Kim Oliphint
David Ortega
James Pearson
Noe Perez
Stephanie Pettitt
Herman Phillips
Robert Pierotti
Rob Riedlinger
Maury Roos
Greg Rowsey

Phil Sanchez
Amritpal Sandhu
Stephanie Servis
Deanna Sesso
John Shelton
Gerald Snow
Garry Smith
Ted Soderstrom
Glen Solberg
Linda Sue Soloman
Mark Soto
Mark Storz
Ernie Tapia
Clay Thomas
Ron Thomas
Ann Valdez
Julie Van Der Volgen
Chris Verdin
Peter Villanueva
Curtis Wada
Pat Whitlock
Richard Willoughby
Jennifer Wong
Ron Wright

TRAINER OF THE YEAR AWARD



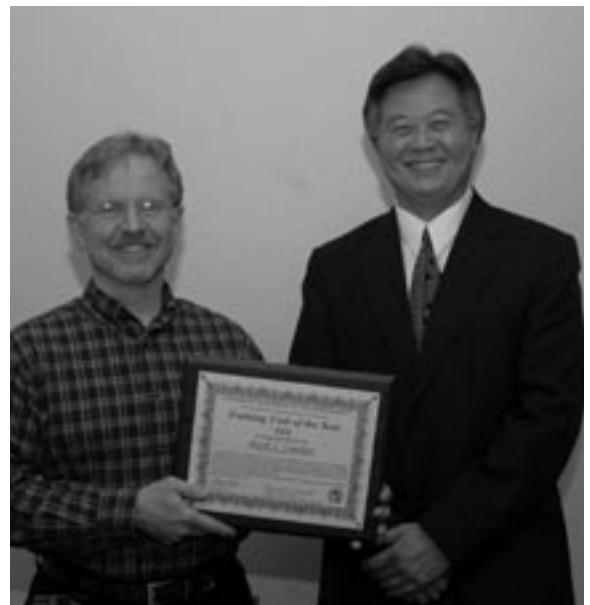
Left to Right: **Dwight Russell**, ECDC Chair and Chief of the DPLA Northern District presented this award jointly to **Jennifer Wong** and **Robert Pierotti** of Division of Planning and Local Assistance's Southern District.

TRAINING COORDINATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD



Ben Williams, (*center*) Vice-Chair of ECDC and Chief of Technology Services presented this award jointly to **Mary Bennyhoff** (*left*) from Central District and to **Linda Sprecher** of the Division of Operations & Maintenance's State Water Project Operations Control Office.

TRAINING UNIT OF THE YEAR AWARD



Russell Kiriū, (*right*) Chief of the Training Office presented this award to **Mark Lambert** of the Public Affairs Office's Motion Picture and Television Unit. (Not pictured: award recipients **John Chacon** and **Albert Madrid** of the Public Affairs Office, Motion Picture and Television Unit.)

Twenty-five Years of Service



Cindy Brauer
Technology Services
Staff Information Systems
Analyst (Supervisor)
February 2005



Michael Dempsey
Environmental Services
Control Systems Technician II
February 2005



Curtis Johnston
San Joaquin Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Operations
Superintendent
February 2005



Pete Scheele
Delta Field Division
Operations Superintendent
January 2005



Michael L. Serna
Northern District
Senior Delineator
February 2005



Paula Styler
Environmental Services
Administrative Officer II
February 2005

Retirements

"I've enjoyed nearly every day at DWR. It's been very gratifying and very educational...but, I'm ready to graduate."

With those words, Senior Engineering Geologist **Koll Buer** ended a 28 year career at the Northern District of the Division of Planning and Local Assistance in Red Bluff on December 16.

The brother of former DWR Flood Management Chief Stein Buer, Koll came to the United States from Norway in 1958 when his father accepted a mechanical engineering professorship at the University of Texas in Austin. Four years later, Koll became a Californian when his father moved to a teaching post at California State University, Sacramento.

After earning undergraduate and master's degrees at University of California, Davis, Koll moved from a graduate student assistant position to fulltime status in 1977 and settled into the Red Bluff community.

During his long tenure, Koll worked on such projects as the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Studies, North Coast Watershed Assessments, Thomes-Newville Project Feasibility,

the Red Bank Project, Sites Offstream Storage, and Oroville relicensing.

"The work was always extremely interesting," said Koll. "My only regret is that we were never able to build anything except Buckhorn Dam on Grass Valley Creek near Weaverville."

Retirement doesn't mean inactivity for Koll. He owns a construction company and is currently building three houses. Extensive travel is also on the radar screen. "Norway, Thailand, and Tibet all figure prominently on my itinerary," said Koll.

Still, it's not easy to walk away from the friends and coworkers one has known for more than a quarter-century. "I don't want to cut all ties with the people at DWR," said Koll, "so I'm looking into a part-time position as a retired annuitant."



Koll Buer

Working around large motors, pumps, and generators has been a major part of the last 35 years of **Ernie Carmona's** life. Last December, Ernie took his hard hat off as Plant Maintenance Superintendent and began his new life as a retiree.

Ernie's DWR career began in 1969 as a Clerk I for the Design and Construction Unit in Bakersfield. His first assignment was to photograph the construction of Edmonston Pumping Plant. After three years, he transferred to the Division of Operations and Maintenance's San Joaquin Field Division, where he entered the Apprentice program and graduated as a Hydroelectric Plant Electrician in 1975.

In 1981, he worked at San Joaquin Field Division's Chrisman and Buena Vista Pumping Plants as an Electrician II. He was promoted to Electrical Supervisor, and then he joined the Operations and Maintenance Training Center as a Training Coordinator for DWR's Apprentice Program.

Ernie joined San Luis Field Division as Plant Maintenance Superintendent in 1992. As Superintendent, he oversaw the mechanical and electrical work. Some of his projects included replacement and refurbishment of major electrical and

mechanical equipment at the Dos Amigos Pumping Plant and the Gianelli Pumping-Generating Plant, both of which are located along the California Aqueduct.

"Of all my assignments, my most important assignment has been my 12 years at the San Luis Field Division," said Ernie. "The challenge of planning, implementing and supervising the replacing and repairing of equipment at two major plants that were over 30 years old was both rewarding and a lot of work."

With his retirement in December, Ernie plans to spend time playing golf, traveling and working around the house.

"The best part of DWR is the people that I've had the privilege of working with," said Ernie. "The only drawback of retiring is leaving the friends and relations that I've made over the past 35 years."



Ernie Carmona

Retirements *continued*

Fred Kattelman, a Utility Craftworker Supervisor at San Joaquin Field Division, retired in January with more than 18 years at DWR.

"I owe the success of most of my projects and tasks to my crew members, their skills and efforts. They got it done," said Fred.

Fred started working in the Delta Field Division as a Civil Maintenance Journeyworker in 1986. After more than a year, he transferred to the Lost Hills Subcenter in the San Joaquin Field Division.

Most of Fred's work has been general Utility Crafts Maintenance repair and construction to the civil features of a 50-mile stretch of the California Aqueduct and related structures.

"Our work has always been varied, sometimes routine, but sometimes a real challenge, like when we had to contain water when all it really wants to do is get out," said Fred.

Fred has also done switchyard transformer containment concrete construction and started on a vital main Aqueduct panel repair project prior to retirement.

"I'd like to thank service and supply and purchasing for getting us the material to work with and administration for trying to figure out my paperwork and getting my paychecks on time," said Fred.

Fred and his wife Anita plan to spend some time exploring around Australia and New Zealand.

"I want to thank DWR in general, the people I have worked with, and all the good training and support I have received over the years," said Fred.



Fred Kattelman

Don Taylor will miss his workmates but not rising at 2:30 A.M. and commuting more than 100 miles per day round trip from his Bakersfield home.

"I will miss the people I work with – a great bunch of people," said Taylor, a Utility Craftworker at Lost Hills Subcenter, in scenic rolling country along the California Aqueduct, south of Kettleman City.

Taylor, 62, retired in December from his job performing civil maintenance work on the SWP in DWR's San Joaquin Field Division which serves the largest number of the SWP's agricultural water users. He accumulated 17 years of State service, almost 10 with DWR.

Taylor will also miss the hilly natural vistas along the aqueduct and Coastal Branch where he has performed duties on SWP facilities for almost a decade.

"It's beautiful seeing the hills turn green with new grass with the winter rains," he said. But he'll be glad to turn off his alarm clock, no longer obliged to make a daily work commute of 52 miles each way between his house in Bakersfield and his aqueduct worksite.

The Lost Hills Subcenter is located west of Interstate 5 and east of the California Aqueduct, in a remote but impressive panorama of the lower San Joaquin Valley and western hill country.

Taylor began his State career as a Building Maintenance Worker for the Department of General Services, working at the 150-acre Fresno County Fairgrounds. After a State budget squeeze, he transferred to DWR almost 10 years ago. He was promoted to Utility Craftworker from Building Maintenance Worker three years ago.

His retirement plans include catching up on "about six pages of a Honey-Do list" provided by his wife, Carol, keeping up with the couple's four dogs, and going fishing with his twin brother, Ron, a retiree from the Salvation Army. (Don is 28 minutes younger than his twin.) A move back to Fresno from Bakersfield may also be in Don's future.



Don Taylor

Retirements *continued*

"Eva McClelland did a terrific job as a Guide at San Luis Reservoir. She was a great ambassador for the State Water Project and particularly for San Luis."

That glowing comment comes from William R. Gianelli, former DWR director. He was an active supporter of her outreach programs, especially the annual Kids Fishing Day Eva helped start.

"She was great with visitors and a very effective water educator with all kinds of tour groups, water experts, and especially youngsters, who loved her Kids Fishing Day," said Gianelli, DWR Director from 1967 to 1973.

When Eva retired in late 2004, ending a 30-year DWR career, similar praise for her was voiced by many who worked with her on tours, visits and special events at San Luis Reservoir, the nation's largest off-stream reservoir.

With a Kentuckian's folksy charm, Texas accent and an expert's missionary zeal about water education, she spent over 25 years at the Romero Overlook Visitors Center, informing visitors about the functions and wonders of California's State Water Project, making countless friends for DWR.

"Eva is a live wire, very energetic, down-to-earth," recalled Guide Howard Berman, her coworker in the Visitors Center overlooking San Luis Reservoir from her arrival in 1978 until her retirement nearly 26 years later. "She always has a smile and a joke for everyone. She's very thoughtful toward others, always quick to send congratulatory notes or get well cards."

Eva began her career as a DWR Guide at Lake Oroville 30 years ago, working at the Visitors Center with Guide John Ford. She has pleasant memories of working with Parks and DWR staff at the Visitors Center and of starting the guest speaker program there.

After Proposition 13 was passed by the voters in 1978, she was transferred to San Luis. She started working for DWR on Halloween, transferred to San Luis on that day and eventually retired on that same holiday.

At San Luis, she said, "we had the freedom to start new programs and carry through with them." She was a cofounder of Kids Fishing Day.

"We wanted to do something for kids," said Eva. "May seemed the perfect time to do it because it is Water Awareness Month and State Parks Month.

"The first year we had 22 kids. Our biggest year since then we entertained 387 kids. Quite a growth," she reported. "Local merchants and volunteers have been huge supporters." Said Berman: "Kids Fishing Day was her baby. She made it fly."

"Former Director Gianelli has been a big backer of the program," reported Eva. "He has given it his monetary support as well as his best wishes." Now retired and living in Pebble Beach, Gianelli drops by the Visitor Center at San Luis periodically.

"Over the years, we had other illustrious visitors, including singer Doris Day and Cesar Chavez," said Eva. In recent years, many Chinese engineers working on vast flood control and river projects in China have visited.

"The biggest month that I can remember was one when we had visitors from 43 countries," said Eva. "In California, we tend to take the State Water Project for granted, not realizing that it is world-famous."

Eva's San Luis outreach target area was chiefly regional, in the San Joaquin Valley her visitor center overlooked, as well as the mountains, passes and valleys stretching west toward the Monterey Peninsula. She has been very active in the Los Banos region, in schools, senior organizations, library and natural history groups.

Fishing, water safety, the SWP, ecosystem conservation and water resource management were among her favorite topics for special events and outreach.

Eva at one time served as training coordinator for San Luis Field Division, earning honors as Training Coordinator of the Year and receiving a Meritorious Service Award.

Born in Kentucky to an Army family, Eva traveled widely as a child, going to grade school in Kentucky and Texas, attending high school in Texas and Germany.

"I have been married, divorced and have three children," said Eva. "My children and grandchildren are scattered from Washington, DC to Hawaii. Thank heavens for email and cheap air fares."

In retirement, Eva plans to fish, play pinochle and brush up her musical skills as a keyboard player. A lover of music from country to classical, she loves to perform and attend concerts.

"The best part of the job was the people I met," said Eva. "This includes coworkers as well as the general public. I have made lifelong friends from both groups. I worked with Howard Berman for 25-plus years. As Howard says: 'That's longer than most marriages'."



Eva McClelland

Retirements *continued*

In the past 27 years with DWR, **Conny Anderson**, who retired as Chief of the Appraisal Section in the Division of Engineering's Real Estate Branch, has worked on nearly every flood control project in which DWR partnered with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and locals, and on SWP projects dating back to DWR's two geothermal power plant projects, the North Bay Aqueduct, the first East Branch Enlargement, and the Kern Water Bank.

"I have really enjoyed my time at DWR. The Real Estate Branch is one of the few places at DWR where staff gets to work on nearly all of the projects in which DWR is involved," said Conny. "Water, whether it's State Water Project water or flood water, flows on land and is impounded on and by land, so every water project needs land. Along the way I have had the opportunity and privilege of working with staff throughout DWR, including the Operations and Maintenance Field Divisions and the four Division of Planning and Local Assistance District Offices."

Conny's more than 32 years of State service began with the Employment Development Department in Los Angeles while she was attending the University of Southern California. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree, she began her right-of-way career as a Junior Right of Way Agent with the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in Los Angeles. She also completed her Master of Public Administration degree at the University of Southern California.

When Caltrans announced a pending staff reduction, she transferred to work as an Appraiser for the Department of Veterans Affairs and then the Board of Equalization. Then, she moved to Sacramento to join DWR as an Associate Land Agent.

"I selected DWR as my final career destination because I knew from growing up in Los Angeles that water would always be a major policy issue in California," said Conny. "One of my favorite memories is my 1977 recruitment to DWR when the then-Division Chief sat in my Los Angeles living room telling me about the exciting new project I would get to work on if I came to DWR. That new project was the Delta Peripheral Canal. It's ironic that although the DPC Project was not built during my career, over 27 years later the idea of a Delta bypass is still hanging around, only with a new name."

Conny, who has always loved to travel and has managed to see parts of five continents even while working full-time at DWR, plans to continue traveling after her December retirement. Northern Africa and Southeast Asia are on her list of early destinations.



Conny Anderson

Any DWR Retiree, who would like to join DWR's Alumni Club or to be added to the DWR Alumni mailing list, contact **Bob Bailey** at (916) 961-1897 or email bbbailey@sprynet.com

Retirements *continued*

Last December marked the end of a 36-year State government career for **Howard Tanabe**, Chief of End User Applications Support in DWR's Division of Technology Services.

Howard spent 35 of those years at DWR with Technology Services. He transferred to the Water Resources Control Board in 1999, but returned to DWR after one year.

Born in Tule Lake, Howard was raised at Blue Canyon. He graduated from Colfax High School, then earned a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from San Jose State University.

In 1968, he began his three and a half decade career in State service while continuing a lifetime interest in physical fitness. Now that there's plenty of free time, Howard plans to spend a good deal of it on the ski slopes at Sierra Tahoe and Northstar. "My goal is to ski one million vertical feet this season," said Howard, the ambitious former Data Processing Manager. "I logged 330,000 feet last season in just 10 days, so I think I can reach the century mark this year."

Looking back on his years at DWR, Howard recalls several projects that are particularly memorable for him. "Working on the Aqueduct Control System, I had two projects that were fun to work on. One was the control system at the JOC, where I was working with a team writing a system to back up the Area Control Center's computer systems. If the ACC computer system failed or needed maintenance, this system would take

over. Another fun project was automating control of the San Luis and Dos Amigos pumping plants. I remember having to drive down to Los Banos to test out my programs at 10 p.m, when the pumps were turned on. More recently, managing the Exchange/Outlook 2000 deployment was both challenging and enjoyable. My last project, working with Jan Fetler on the DWR portal, both Internet and Intranet, was interesting and enjoyable. The Portal really simplified navigating through and finding information on all of DWR's Web sites."

When the warm weather returns, tennis is on his agenda. Howard also plans to volunteer at his two children's elementary school.

"The best part of my tenure was the interaction with a lot of wonderful people," said Howard. "I have a membership at the Capital Athletic Club, right across the street from the Resources Building, so I'll drop by the seventh floor occasionally to harass my old friends."



Howard Tanabe

Retirements

Lydia Aguilar
Fiscal Services
Senior Accounting Officer

Gerald Bartholomew
San Luis Field Division
HEP* Electrical Supervisor

Jeanne Brioso
San Luis Field Division
Business Services Assistant

Paul Burrow
San Joaquin Field Division
HEP* Mechanic II

Christine Button
Oroville Field Division
Office Technician (Typing)

Victorino Chico
SWP Analysis Office
Water Resources Engineering
Associate

Janet Delaney
Operations & Maintenance
Executive Secretary I

Donna Fung
Engineering
Secretary

Ali Ghorbanzadeh
Bay-Delta Office
Senior Engineer

Jerry Glass
San Joaquin Field Division
HEP* Mechanic Supervisor

Carl Hauge
Planning & Local Assistance
Supervising Engineering
Geologist

Paul Hultin
Operations & Maintenance
Systems Software Specialist I

Helen Kobayashi
Operations & Maintenance
Office Technician (Typing)

Robert Liddington
Operations & Maintenance
Senior Water & Power
Dispatcher

Donna Nieto
Flood Management
Office Technician (Typing)

James Obrien
Executive
Staff Counsel III

Paul Peck
Southern Field Division
Assistant Utility Craftsworker

Diane Peterson
Flood Management
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst

Melvina Rhoades
Delta Field Division
Materials & Stores Supervisor

Cynthia Salazar
Oroville Field Division
Senior HEP* Operator

Gary Sanders
San Joaquin Field Division
Heavy Equipment Mechanic

John Sims
Engineering
Senior Engineer

Evelyn Stevens
Management Services
Secretary

Donald Tribble
Operations & Maintenance
Senior HEP** Utility Engineer
(Supervisor)

Ronald Wermuth
Engineering
Mechanical Construction
Supervisor I

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DWR'S PERSONNEL OFFICE

Retirements *continued*

"If it isn't safe, don't do it!"

That safety mantra serves as **Tom Madden's** parting advice – and professional legacy – for DWR.

In retiring in December, after a 16-year career as Safety Officer for the San Joaquin Field Division, the lanky, 6-foot-2 Madden compiled an impressive safety record for the division, where SWP infrastructure includes the Edmonston Pumping Plant.

"As fulltime safety officer, I introduced the back belt and exercise program that dramatically reduced back injuries in our division," said Tom.

"Our safety program was very effective," related Tom with pride. "Our field division won the Engineers Safety Award first place seven times, second place five times and placed third twice. I have enjoyed working as Safety Officer here very much. Without the excellent participation of all the employees, we could not have achieved such a great record. I will miss all of them."

Tom joined DWR in 1989 after a hitch in the Navy and varied experience working in the private sector. For about five years, he managed a plant in Maricopa that produced a distinctive product that benefits man and beast – kitty litter.

At DWR, Tom handled a double assignment – tour guide and safety officer – for many years, and also promoted water awareness. He tirelessly promoted safety, with lectures, reminders, mottoes and an assortment of gimmicks and souvenirs, including key chains and miniature penknives.

He also ably performed tour guide duties for the SJFD, escorting many students, dignitaries, water officials, researchers and thousands of visitors, including reporters, TV camera crews

and photographers, through Edmonston and other SWP facilities during a decade and a half.

As DWR's water outreach program manager, Tom was a familiar voice and face to TV, radio and newspaper reporters throughout Kern County, capably reporting on the SWP's achievements, SWP water deliveries and preaching water safety and conservation.

Each May, Tom hosted a Water Awareness Day at Edmonston that brought 200 students from Kern County community schools for a day of free fishing, fun and water education at Edmonston.

"Our goal was to teach students about the value of water and its wise uses, educate them about water safety and give them a thrill with a catch-and-release fishing experience at a pond we built at Edmonston," he recalled. "They had a lot of fun and, I hope, learned a few valuable things about water."

Born in Oklahoma, Tom worked in the West Texas oil fields as a youth. After graduating from high school in Grand Falls, Texas, in 1959, he joined the Navy and served in an aircraft supply unit aboard the carrier Yorktown. His ship's home port was San Diego. He became a California resident and went to college after his 1963 discharge from the Navy.

In retirement, Tom plans to relocate back to Texas. He has his eye on a place in Marble Falls, about 50 miles north of Austin, next to a golf course and a lake.



Tom Madden

New Hires

Brian Baker
San Luis Field Division
HEP * Electrician I

James Baldock
Operations & Maintenance
Associate Control Engineer

Derrick Bell
Engineering
Electrical Engineer

Aaron Bonner
Southern Field Division
HEP* Mechanic Apprentice

Karyn Cates
San Joaquin Field Division
Office Assistant (Typing)

Joshua Cleveland
San Luis Field Division
Utility Craftworker

Gary Friesz
Delta Field Division
HEP* Operator

Jeffrey Hall
Oroville Field Division
HEP* Mechanic Apprentice

Todd Hegwood
Southern Field Division
Utility Craftworker
Apprentice

Brandon Hill
Delta Field Division
Utility Craftworker
Apprentice

Jaime Jimenez
San Joaquin Field Division
HEP* Mechanic Apprentice

Jodi Johnston
San Joaquin Field Division
Warehouse Worker

Mario Juarez
San Joaquin Field Division
Warehouse Worker

Andrew Lopez
Environmental Services
Stock Clerk

Erik Malvick
Safety of Dams
Engineer

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DWR'S PERSONNEL OFFICE

Jeff Cohen has always been a bit of a storyteller.

Since joining DWR's Public Affairs Office in 1988, Jeff has told the tale of California water as a public information officer.

In times of drought and flood, he's been one of the many voices of DWR for the press and public.

He has also helped train a new generation of managers and supervisors in the media skills needed to present information about our programs to news reporters on deadline.

"I'd say I take most pride in that job when I see our people on camera putting complex subjects into simpler terms," Jeff says.

In finding answers for the press, Jeff has hiked through snowdrifts on snow surveys, explored flooded river basins, and worked insomniac hours at the State Flood Center. His specialty has been live radio interviews explaining changing water supply conditions throughout the winter and spring months.

"I like working with radio," he says. "It allows you to be creative in wording your messages."

Jeff has also written numerous articles for DWR News and People, produced educational materials for the State's water conservation awareness program, and provided public outreach materials for construction projects. He drew up the first crisis information plan for the Public Affairs Office so the department could better respond to press questions in emergencies.

Since the advent of the Internet, Jeff has applied his media know-how to compiling a daily e-mail distribution of the most important water stories affecting the State. Called "California Water News," it now reaches more than 4,000 readers in water

districts, State and federal agencies, and in the nation's capital. "California Water News" originated during the 1997 flood event when initial distribution of flood-related news articles were circulated.

"Besides our own program managers and supervisors, we are reaching key officials, technical staffs, and educators all over the State and well beyond our borders," he says.

Jeff's 30 years of State service began as an Assistant Information Officer with the Department of Transportation, where he was the Editor of their magazine titled "Going Places." He later worked at the State Office of Emergency Services and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Now that he has "graduated" from work, Jeff and his recently retired wife, Rochelle, have plans to spend more time with family and friends, travel, and pursue additional education. Next trip is to Italy for a Tuscan regional cooking class.

"I've been on a life-long journey of continuing education," he says. "I once wanted to master French, but my French teacher told me that even the French don't master French. So I'll settle for dabbling."

C'est la vie.



Jeff Cohen

New Hires *continued*

Candice Marg
Engineering
Office Assistant (Typing)

Philip McCarthy
Southern Field Division
HEP* Electrician Apprentice

Luis Meza
San Luis Field Division
HEP* Operator Apprentice

Alvin Prakash
Safety of Dams
Engineer

Gwyneth Raymer
Management Services
Staff Services Analyst

Scott Rebelo
San Luis Field Division
Utility Craftworker
Apprentice

Kevin Rivas
Southern Field Division
Utility Craftworker
Apprentice

Elizabeth Scott
Public Affairs Office
Editorial Technician

Sukhbir Singh
Engineering
Electrical Engineer

Christopher Smith
Operations & Maintenance
Program Water & Power
Dispatcher

Joseph Tapia
San Joaquin District
Engineer

Joseph Trujillo Jr.
Delta Field Division
HEP* Operator Apprentice

Robert Whaley
Delta Field Division
HEP* Operator Apprentice

Kevin Yancy
San Luis Field Division
HEP* Electrician I

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DWR'S PERSONNEL OFFICE

Promotions

David Alexander
SWP Analysis Office
Senior HEP** Utility Engineer
(Supervisor)

Sean Bagheban-Rezvan
Bay-Delta Office
Senior Engineer

Fethi Benjemaa
Office of Water Use Efficiency
Staff Land & Water Use Scientist

Gerald Boles
Executive
Environmental Program
Manager I

Christopher Bonds
Central District
Senior Engineering Geologist

Cindy Brotman
Operations & Maintenance
Systems Software Specialist I

Thomas Ciszewski
Operations & Maintenance
Senior Control Engineer
(Supervisor)

Manerva Cole
Management Services
Office Technician (Typing)

Lizette Cook
Environmental Services
Staff Programmer Analyst

Rhett Cotter
Delta Field Division
Utility Craftworker Supt.

Daniel Cretu
SWP Analysis Office
Senior HEP** Utility Engineer
(Supervisor)

Donna Cruz
Delta Field Division
Senior HEP* Operator

Steven Culberson
Environmental Services
Staff Environmental Scientist

Sharmane Daniels
Fiscal Services
Assistant Information Systems
Analyst

Rene Delacerda
Operations & Maintenance
Dispatcher

Edward Elliott
San Joaquin Field Division
Utility Craftworker Supervisor

Danny Erreca
San Joaquin Field Division
Chief HEP* Operator

Farshid Falaki
Engineering
Principal Mechanical &
Electrical Engineer (H.S.***)

Christina Fox
Environmental Services
Staff Programmer Analyst

Martin Fuentes
Delta Field Division
Business Service Officer I

Cheryl Garrett
Management Services
Assistant Information Systems
Analyst

Andrea Glasgow
SWP Analysis Office
Senior Engineer

Robert Goodnight
Northern District
Water Resources Technician II

Fengmao Guo
Environmental Services
Staff Environmental Scientist

Coe Hall
Operations & Maintenance
Principal HEP** Utility Engineer

Michael Hindman
Southern Field Division
Utility Craftworker

Arthur Hinojosa
Flood Management
Supervising Engineer

Tracy Hinojosa
Operations & Maintenance
Senior Engineer

William Holland
Oroville Field Division
Utility Craftworker Supervisor

Tammy Kearney
Oroville Field Division
Office Technician (Typing)

Hamid Kharazi
Operations & Maintenance
Senior HEP** Utility Engineer
(Supervisor)

Larry Kline
Flood Management
Utility Craftworker Supervisor

Paul Lambrecht
Operations & Maintenance
Water & Power Dispatcher

Sandra Layne
Management Services
Office Technician (Typing)

John Leahigh
Operations & Maintenance
Supervising Engineer

Roger Lee
Flood Management
Senior Engineer

Daniel Lemay
San Joaquin Field Division
Utility Craftworker Supervisor

Soheil Loghmanpour
Engineering
Supervising Mechanical
Engineer (H.S***)

Lorraine Marsh
Planning & Local Assistance
Research Program Specialist II
(Economics)

Eleanor Matuu
Delta Field Division
Management Services
Technician

Theresa Moser
Management Services
Associate Business Management
Analyst

Chanda Nelson
Engineering
Office Technician (Typing)

Morteza Orang
Planning & Local Assistance
Staff Land & Water Use Scientist

Armando Ortiz
Operations & Maintenance
Electrical Engineer

Dilip Patel
Engineering
Water Resources Technician II

Linus Paulus
Engineering
Associate Land Agent

James Rich
Planning & Local Assistance
Research Program Specialist II
(Economics)

Logan Riffenburg
Southern Field Division
Utility Craftworker

Raymundo Romo
Oroville Field Division
HEP* Mechanic I

Gina Rouse
Oroville Field Division
Senior HEP* Operator

Joseph Royer
Operations & Maintenance
Supervising Engineer

Nancy Serrato
Central District
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst

Sandra Springer
Flood Management
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst

Mark Storz
Management Services
Inspector of Automotive
Equipment

Bekele Temesgen
Office of Water Use Efficiency
Staff Land & Water Use
Scientist

Raphael Torres
Engineering
C.E.A.

Stephen Verigin
Executive
C.E.A.

Brian Wallace
San Joaquin Field Division
HEP* Mechanic II

Christopher Wilkinson
Bay-Delta Office
Staff Environmental Scientist

Robert Williams
Delta Field Division
HEP* Mechanic I

*Hydroelectric Plant
**Hydroelectric Power
*** Hydraulic Structures

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DWR'S PERSONNEL OFFICE

Obituaries

Rita Singer, a retired attorney with the Office of the Chief Counsel, passed away early in the morning of January 10 from complications arising from pneumonia. Rita, who was 89, retired from the Office of the Chief Counsel at age 85 in 2001.

Rita was born on July 23, 1915 in Toronto, Ontario. She later moved to Detroit, where she graduated from law school at the University of Michigan in 1938. She was one of only two women to graduate from law school in her class.

She began her career as an administrative assistant with a New York City philanthropic organization that resettled refugees from concentration camps in the Dominican Republic and other new world nations. Following turns at various federal agencies, including the Bureau of Reclamation, she joined DWR in 1978 as a special consultant to help align the Central Valley Project with the State Water Project. In that capacity, she helped orchestrate the Coordinated Operations Agreement between the Bureau and DWR.

"In addition to being knowledgeable about both water and legal issues, she treated each individual as a valuable person and as someone she would like to know," said Katy Spanos, a Staff Counsel in the Office of the Chief Counsel.

Before joining DWR, Rita worked on the Bureau of Reclamation contract with the Westlands Water District, at the time the largest water sale contract between the Bureau and a water district.

Accomplishments at DWR included work with contracts, environmental law, and water-related legislation.

"Rita's unique perspective on California resources issues, stemming in part from her years of service with the Bureau of

Reclamation, made her an invaluable member of the DWR legal staff," said Susan Weber, a Staff Counsel in the Office of the Chief Counsel.

Rita was a champion of women's and civil rights. She served as a director of the League of Women Voters and as president of the American Civil Liberties Union, Sacramento Chapter.



Rita Singer

"Rita inspired many people, both men and women, to make the most of their talents and opportunities, to make learning a lifelong passion, and to give back to the community," said Susan.

Rita's professional commitments included a membership in both the California and Michigan State Bar Associations, a stint as a Small Claims Court judge, and President of Local 951, National Federation of Federal Employees.

Her friends remember Rita as someone who was always willing to try something new. "I took her on her first camping and rafting trip when she was 66. She always had such a great deal of enthusiasm for life and the people that she met," said Katy.

She was preceded in death by both her brother, David Singer, and her husband Fred Brandis. She has no immediate surviving relatives.

Lee Scoles, a DWR retiree, died January 25 at the age of 86.

A native Californian, Lee was born in San Francisco and graduated from the University of California, Berkeley before beginning his career with the State as an Assistant Hospital Administrator at Modesto State Hospital (now closed).

After 13 years with the State, Lee began his DWR career in July of 1968 as an Administrative Officer I. Lee was promoted to Administrative Officer II in 1975. He retired in 1978 with a total of 23 years of State service.

During his DWR career, Lee and his wife were active members of the Northern District's bowling league.

"He and his wife were dedicated bowlers, and it was a lot of fun bowling with them" said Tom Speer, DWR's Chief of Departmental Services who worked with Lee at Northern District in Red Bluff until 1972.

After his retirement, Lee moved to Modesto and spent his time four-wheeling and sailing his 27-foot cabin cruiser, "Lee's Lady."

Lee's work at DWR is carried on by his son, Jerry Scoles who is currently with the San Luis Field Division.

Lee is survived by his wife Garnet, four sons and nine grandchildren.

Obituaries *continued*

Aurelio Quinones, a Photogrammetrist II with the Division of Land and Right of Way who worked for DWR over 25 years, passed away December 26.

Aurelio started with his career with DWR as an Engineering Aid I in the Division of Engineering in 1962. In 1965, he was promoted to Engineering Aid II, and was transferred to Los Angeles, but returned to Sacramento shortly thereafter.

In 1973, Aurelio left DWR to attend school, and when he came back to DWR in 1980, he was hired as a Water Resources Technician I in the Division of Engineering. In 1982, he transferred to the Division of Land and Right of Way. He became a Water Resources Technician II in 1984, Photogrammetrist I in 1984, and Photogrammetrist II in 1987.

Aurelio received a unit citation for being a member of the 1997 Levee Rehabilitation Team, which assisted in repairing levees damaged in the flood of January 1997. He also received a Certificate of Appreciation for his outstanding contributions associated with the design and construction of the Coastal Branch Phase II Project in 1998.

He retired in November of 2000, and returned to DWR as a Retired Annuitant from January 2001, serving until July 2001.

"Al was a good friend of mine. He was very friendly and patient with all of his co-workers. In Sacramento he taught karate for over 30 years. It's hard to believe that he's gone," said Maria Chan of the Photogrammetry Unit in the Division of Engineering.

Aurelio is survived by his wife of 37 years, Evelyn Quinones, and their four children and three grandchildren.



Aurelio Quinones

Merle J. Wheeler, a retired Heavy Equipment Mechanic with DWR's Oroville Field Division, passed away on January 14 at the age of 81.

Merle was born in Mount Ida, Arkansas. He was a longtime Yuba-Sutter resident.

Merle began work at the Department's Oroville Field Division as a Mechanics Helper in 1964. A year later, he was promoted to Heavy Equipment Mechanic. He retired from State service in July of 1985.

Merle was a volunteer fireman with the Live Oak Fire Department, and a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Live Oak. He served in the Navy during World War II, stationed in the Pacific Theater.

Merle is survived by his wife of 58 years, Teresa, three sons, a daughter, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Obituaries *continued*

Warren W. Spratford, a retired land surveyor from the Field Surveys Unit of the former Division of Land and Right of Way, passed away on December 9.

"He enjoyed being and working outdoors. Land surveying allowed him to do both. His experience and enthusiasm reinforced my interest and career choice of land surveying," said Carrol Leong, Chief of DWR's Cadastral Surveys and Land Records, Geodetic Branch of the Division of Engineering.

Warren was born on January 30, 1931 in Correctionville, Iowa. Warren's family moved to Rapid City, South Dakota, and later to Sacramento in the 1940s. He graduated from Sacramento High School in 1950.



Warren W. Spratford

Warren embarked on his surveying career as a Drafting Aide with the Division of Highways and later spent four years in the Navy. He began working for the State in 1954 by surveying State parks throughout California for the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) as a Junior Engineering Aide. After leaving DPR, he was often consulted by that Department for his extensive knowledge of State parks and his specialization as a Boundary Surveyor.

In 1968, Warren surveyed for the State Lands Division as an Assistant Engineer. He then transferred to the DWR's Land and Right of Way Unit in 1974 where he was promoted to Land Surveyor Supervisor in 1989.

Some of Warren's projects at DWR included monitoring horizontal and vertical positions of Sherman Island levees and similar work for projects along the East and West branches of the California Aqueduct.

Warren also helped train new surveyors at DWR. When Carrol started with Land & Right of Way, she was in the Right of Way Engineering Unit, an office position. To become licensed as a surveyor, she needed field experience and Warren was her first party chief.

"He was a very patient teacher and he loved being a land surveyor. He really enjoyed his work. If you showed a true interest in surveying, he was happy to help you learn. I would consider him one of my mentors," said Carrol.

Various field surveying assignments would take Warren and his crew all over the State, and there was a lot of hands-on training for Carrol.

Warren formed his own consulting surveying company called Spratford Surveys in 1985 in anticipation of the full time surveying work he would do when he retired. He retired only from the State not from surveying, and stayed busy for the next decade.

Warren was a member of Antique Classics, EAA Chapter 526, California Land Surveyors Association, the Carmichael Chamber of Commerce, Carmichael Elks Lodge and the VFW, Post 2324.

He also was an avid pilot, and built a Kit Fox airplane with a friend in the 1990s.

Warren is survived by his wife of 40 years, Jeanette, son Daniel, and grandchildren Brooke, Ashley and Cody.

Birth Announcements

Congratulations to DWR Parents:

Sherry Constancio, Engineer with Flood Management's Flood Operations Center, has a son named Caleb Anthony, who was born on March 7 weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces and measuring 21 inches long.

Scott McReynolds, Environmental Scientist with Northern District, has a son named Ryan Scott, who was born on February 27 weighing 6 pounds, 15 ounces and measuring 20 inches long.

David Rizzardo, Engineer with Flood Management's Forecasting Section, has a daughter named Alyssa Sarah, who was born on January 14 weighing 7 pounds, 13.5 ounces and measuring 21.25 inches long.

DWR MISSION

Statement

To manage the water resources
of California in cooperation
with other agencies,
to benefit the State's people,
and to protect, restore,
and enhance the natural
and human environments.

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